

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

Claims 1-15 are the subject of the first issued official office action. Applicants have amended Claim 1, 2, and 5. Therefore, claims 1-15 are currently pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration, in view of the foregoing amendments and arguments to appear hereinafter, are respectfully requested.

II. CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Velasquez et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,616,152. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration by the Examiner in light of the provided amendments and remarks. Furthermore, withdrawal of the rejection is hereby respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to a method of fabricating composite electrodes. In particular, the present invention focuses on a method of manufacturing electrodes wherein the electrodes are made by using at least one film forming slurry in combination with an electrically conductive grid. The present invention provides a means of creating an electrode wherein instead of requiring the lamination of two films together, a solvent is used to coalesce the two films and bond them together thereby providing an indistinguishable parting line between the two films (see page 7, lines 10-13). The present invention is distinct from that known in the prior art due to the fact that it provides an alternate means for bonding the two films together and creating an electrode. The application of at least one film forming slurry throughout the fabrication process ensures that the solvent of the slurry dissolves part of the other film forming component and the two films become coalesced with one another thereby removing the lamination step from the process.

In contrast to the present invention, the Velasquez et al. reference focuses on a method of fabricating an electrode having a perforated current collector and a tab which form an integral unit. The Velasquez et al. reference suggests that anode or cathode slurries may be cast directly onto the perforated foil and the solvent is allowed to evaporate. The reference does not suggest that the two films are coalesced together through the use of a solvent. It is further suggested by the Velasquez et al. reference that the electrode film created by slurries is removed from a substrate and laminated onto the perforated foil. The

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DP-301,117

use of lamination is integral to the formation of the electrodes in the Velasquez et al. reference.

In light of the above remarks Applicants request reconsideration by the Examiner and withdrawal of the rejection. Applicants suggest that the present invention is distinct from that provided in the Velasquez et al. reference and the claims of the present invention should be viewed as patentable.

III. CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 9 and 11-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable by Velasquez et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,616,152. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration by the Examiner in light of the provided amendments and remarks. Claims 9 and 11-12 depend from independent Claim 8 (directly or indirectly), and accordingly include all the limitations thereof. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons above concerning the Velasquez et al reference, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is over come and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is hereby respectfully requested.

09/862,388
DP-301,117

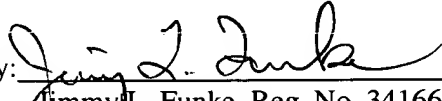
CONCLUSION

For at least the above-cited reasons, all claims pending in the present application are now believed to be allowable. Early receipt of a Notice of Allowance is hereby respectfully requested.

You are hereby authorized to charge any fees due for filing this Amendment to Delphi Technologies, Inc. Deposit Account No. 50-0831.

Respectfully submitted,

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